APPENDIX A

ATSDR MINIMAL RISK LEVELS AND WORKSHEETS

The Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) [42 U.S.C. 9601 et seq.], as amended by the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (SARA) [Pub. L. 99–499], requires that the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) develop jointly with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), in order of priority, a list of hazardous substances most commonly found at facilities on the CERCLA National Priorities List (NPL); prepare toxicological profiles for each substance included on the priority list of hazardous substances; and assure the initiation of a research program to fill identified data needs associated with the substances.

The toxicological profiles include an examination, summary, and interpretation of available toxicological information and epidemiologic evaluations of a hazardous substance. During the development of toxicological profiles, Minimal Risk Levels (MRLs) are derived when reliable and sufficient data exist to identify the target organ(s) of effect or the most sensitive health effect(s) for a specific duration for a given route of exposure. An MRL is an estimate of the daily human exposure to a hazardous substance that is likely to be without appreciable risk of adverse noncancer health effects over a specified duration of exposure. MRLs are based on noncancer health effects only and are not based on a consideration of cancer effects. These substance-specific estimates, which are intended to serve as screening levels, are used by ATSDR health assessors to identify contaminants and potential health effects that may be of concern at hazardous waste sites. It is important to note that MRLs are not intended to define clean-up or action levels.

MRLs are derived for hazardous substances using the no-observed-adverse-effect level/uncertainty factor approach. They are below levels that might cause adverse health effects in the people most sensitive to such chemical-induced effects. MRLs are derived for acute (1–14 days), intermediate (15–364 days), and chronic (365 days and longer) durations and for the oral and inhalation routes of exposure. Currently, MRLs for the dermal route of exposure are not derived because ATSDR has not yet identified a method suitable for this route of exposure. MRLs are generally based on the most sensitive chemical-induced end point considered to be of relevance to humans. Serious health effects (such as irreparable damage to the liver or kidneys, or birth defects) are not used as a basis for establishing MRLs. Exposure to a level above the MRL does not mean that adverse health effects will occur.

APPENDIX A

MRLs are intended only to serve as a screening tool to help public health professionals decide where to look more closely. They may also be viewed as a mechanism to identify those hazardous waste sites that are not expected to cause adverse health effects. Most MRLs contain a degree of uncertainty because of the lack of precise toxicological information on the people who might be most sensitive (e.g., infants, elderly, nutritionally or immunologically compromised) to the effects of hazardous substances. ATSDR uses a conservative (i.e., protective) approach to address this uncertainty consistent with the public health principle of prevention. Although human data are preferred, MRLs often must be based on animal studies because relevant human studies are lacking. In the absence of evidence to the contrary, ATSDR assumes that humans are more sensitive to the effects of hazardous substance than animals and that certain persons may be particularly sensitive. Thus, the resulting MRL may be as much as a hundredfold below levels that have been shown to be nontoxic in laboratory animals.

Proposed MRLs undergo a rigorous review process: Health Effects/MRL Workgroup reviews within the Division of Toxicology, expert panel peer reviews, and agencywide MRL Workgroup reviews, with participation from other federal agencies and comments from the public. They are subject to change as new information becomes available concomitant with updating the toxicological profiles. Thus, MRLs in the most recent toxicological profiles supersede previously published levels. For additional information regarding MRLs, please contact the Division of Toxicology, Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry, 1600 Clifton Road, Mailstop E-29, Atlanta, Georgia 30333.

APPENDIX A

MINIMAL RISK LEVEL (MRL) WORKSHEET

Chemical Name: γ-HCH
CAS Number: 58-89-9
Date: January 15, 1999
Profile Status: Draft 3, Post-public
Route: [ ] Inhalation [X] Oral
Duration: [X] Acute   [ ] Intermediate   [ ] Chronic
Graph Key: 9
Species: Rat

Minimal Risk Level: 0.01   [X] mg/kg/day [ ] ppm

Reference: Joy et al. 1982

Experimental design: (human study details or strain, number of animals per exposure/control groups, sex, dose administration details): Groups of 7-14 male Sprague-Dawley rats were exposed by gavage to 0, 1, 3, or 10 mg/kg/day lindane in corn oil for up to 23 days. Kindling (development of seizures with repeated application of initially subthreshold electrical stimuli) was performed.

Effects noted in study and corresponding doses: Electronic amygdaloid stimulation to induce epileptic-like seizures had a significant effect on number of rats with electrical after discharges exhibiting behavioral responses given the 3 mg/kg/day dose for 4 days. Significant changes in most indices (number of stimulations required to give a behavioral response, number of stimulations evoking an afterdischarge until subjects showed first generalized epileptic response) were seen at 3 mg/kg/day after 23 days.
Calculations: 1 mg/kg/day X 1/100UF = 0.01 mg/kg/day.

Dose and endpoint used for MRL derivation:

[X] NOAEL   [ ] LOAEL

Uncertainty Factors used in MRL derivation:

    [ ]   for use of a LOAEL
    [X] 10 for extrapolation from animals to humans
    [X] 10 for human variability

Was a conversion used from ppm in food or water to a mg/body weight dose?
If so, explain: No

If an inhalation study in animals, list the conversion factors used in determining human equivalent dose:

Other additional studies or pertinent information which lend support to this MRL:
Rats exposed by gavage to 2.97 mg/kg/day lindane for 6 days exhibited increased pineal N-acetyl-transferase and decreased serotonin levels (Attia et al. 1991). Serrano et al. (1990a) exposed rats to 5 mg/kg/day γ-HCH by oil gavage for 3 days, resulting in decreased myelin and 2',3'-cyclic nucleotide 43'-phosphodiesterase activity in the brain.   Seizures and convulsions have been reported in humans following ingestion of γ-HCH

APPENDIX A

(Davies et al. 1983; Harris et al. 1969; Munk and Nantel 1977; Powell 1980; Starr and Clifford 1972; Storen 1955).

APPENDIX A

MINIMAL RISK LEVEL (MRL) WORKSHEET

Chemical Name: β-HCH
CAS Number: 319-85-7
Date: January 15, 1999
Profile Status: Draft 3, Post-public
Route: [ ] Inhalation [X] Oral
Duration: [X] Acute   [ ] Intermediate   [ ] Chronic
Graph Key: 9
Species: Mouse

Minimal Risk Level: 0.2   [X] mg/kg/day [ ] ppm

Reference: Cornacoff et al. 1988

Experimental design (human study details or strain, number of animals per exposure/control groups, sex, dose administration details): Groups of 6 female B6C3F1 mice were treated with 0, 100, 300, or 1000 ppm beta-HCH in the diet for 30 days (0, 19, 57, or 190 mg/kg/day).

Effects noted in study and corresponding doses: Mice receiving 57 or 190 mg/kg/day exhibited ataxia within 1 week. The signs were resolved in a few days in the 57 mg/kg/day group, but 80% of mice in the 190 mg/kg/day group became laterally recumbant and were euthanized. No ataxia was seen at 19 mg/kg/day.

Dose and endpoint used for MRL derivation: 19 mg/kg/day (100 ppm); ataxia.
Calculations: 19 mg/kg/day X 1/100UF = 0.19 mg/kg/day.

[X] NOAEL   [ ] LOAEL

Uncertainty Factors used in MRL derivation:

        [ ] 10 for use of a LOAEL
        [X] 10 for extrapolation from animals to humans
        [X] 10 for human variability

Was a conversion used from ppm in food or water to a mg/body weight dose?
If so, explain: Yes. A food factor of 0.19 kg feed/kg body weight/day for female $B6C3F_1$ mice was used to convert dose from mg/kg (ppm) food to mg/kg body weight as follows: 100 ppm X 0.19 (mouse food factor) = 19 mg/kg/d; 300 ppm = 57 mg/kg/d; 1000 ppm = 190 mg/kg/day.

If an inhalation study in animals, list the conversion factors used in determining human equivalent dose:

Other additional studies or pertinent information which lend support to this MRL:
A study by Hulth et al. (1978) in which female NMRI mice were exposed once orally to alpha-HCH also found neurological effects in the form of increased convulsive threshold and increased brain GABA levels at 150 mg/kg/day. A significant reduction in motor conduction velocity in tail nerve was seen in Wistar rats exposed orally to 66 mg/kg/day beta-HCH for 30 days (Muller et al. 1981). Rats treated with 12.5 mg/kg/day beta-HCH in food for 13 weeks underwent early autopsy due to progressive clinical signs (e.g., ataxia followed by coma) (Van Velsen et al. 1986).

APPENDIX A

MINIMAL RISK LEVEL (MRL) WORKSHEET

Chemical Name: α-HCH
CAS Number: 319-84-6
Date: January 15, 1999
Profile Status: Draft 3, Post-public
Route: [ ] Inhalation [X] Oral
Duration: [ ] Acute   [ ] Intermediate   [X] Chronic
Graph Key: 61
Species: Rat

Minimal Risk Level: 0.008   [X] mg/kg/day [ ] ppm

Reference: Fitzhugh et al. 1950 (Table 2 of the article).

Experimental design (human study details or strain, number of animals per exposure/control groups, sex, dose administration details): Groups of 10 male and 10 female Wistar rats were treated with 0, 10, 50, 100, or 800 ppm alpha-HCH in food (0.8, 4, 8, or 64 mg/kg/day) for the lifespan. The mean age at death of the 10 ppm group (NOAEL) was 54.6 weeks and of the control group was 58.3 weeks. The lifetime of the animals sacrificed at the end of the experiment was taken as 107 weeks. Body weight, organ weight, and histopathological changes were monitored.

Effects noted in study and corresponding doses: Body weight decreased significantly compared to controls in males (18%) and females (13%) at 800 ppm (64 mg/kg/day). A significant decrease (38%) in age at death was seen at 80 mg/kg/day. A significant increase in relative liver weight (36%) was seen at 50 ppm (4 mg/kg/day). Slight microscopic liver damage (diffuse cell enlargement, focal necrosis, fatty degeneration) was seen at 50 ppm (4 mg/kg/day), and slight kidney damage (focal nephritis) was seen at 800 ppm (64 mg/kg/day).

Dose and endpoint used for MRL derivation: 0.8 mg/kg/day (10 ppm); no hepatic effects.
Calculations: 0.8 mg/kg/day × 1/100UF = 0.008 mg/kg/day.

[X] NOAEL   [ ] LOAEL

Uncertainty Factors used in MRL derivation:

        [ ] 10 for use of a LOAEL
        [X] 10 for extrapolation from animals to humans
        [X] 10 for human variability

Was a conversion used from ppm in food or water to a mg/body weight dose?
If so, explain: Yes. A food factor of 0.08 kg feed/kg body weight/day for female Wistar rats was used to convert dose from ppm food to mg/kg body weight as follows: 10 ppm × 0.08 (rat food factor) = 0.8 mg/kg/day; 50 ppm = 4 mg/kg/day; 100 ppm = 8 mg/kg/day; 800 ppm = 64 mg/kg/day.

If an inhalation study in animals, list the conversion factors used in determining human equivalent dose:

APPENDIX A

<u>Other additional studies or pertinent information which lend support to this MRL</u>:Other studies have observed various hepatic effects after chronic-duration oral exposure to alpha and other HCH isomers (Amyes et al. 1990; NCI 1977; Wolff et al. 1987; Ito et al. 1975; Thorpe and Walker 1973; Munir et al. 1983; Kashyap et al. 1979). Amyes et al. observed periacinar hypertrophy in male and female Wistar rats treated with 8 mg/kg/day γ-HCH in their diet for up to 52 weeks. The NOAEL was determined to be 0.8 mg/kg/day. Hepatocellular carcinoma was observed in rats fed 50 mg/kg/day α-HCH in their diet for 72 week (Ito et al. 1975). Hepatocellular carcinoma was also reported in mice treated with 34 mg/kg/day β-HCH in their diet for 104 weeks (Thorpe and Walker 1973).

MINIMAL RISK LEVEL (MRL) WORKSHEET

Chemical Name: β-HCH
CAS Number: 319-85-7
Date: January 15, 1999
Profile Status: Draft 3, Post-public
Route: [ ] Inhalation [X] Oral
Duration: [ ] Acute [X] Intermediate [ ] Chronic
Graph Key: 22
Species: Rat

Minimal Risk Level: _0.0006_ [X] mg/kg/day [ ] ppm

Reference: Van Velsen et al. 1986

Experimental design (human study details or strain, number of animals per exposure/control groups, sex, dose administration details): Groups of 10 male and 10 female Wistar rats were treated with 0, 2, 10, 50. or 250 ppm beta-HCH in food for 13 weeks (0, 0.18, 0.9, 4.5, or 22.5 mg/kg/day), then sacrificed.

Effects noted in study and corresponding doses: Hyalinization of centrilobular cells, indicating the initiation of hepatic effects, was observed at the low dose (2 ppm or 0.18 mg/kg/day). An increase in cellular hypertrophy and number of eosinophils was seen at 2 ppm (0.18 mg/kg/day). Centrilobular hepatocytic hypertrophy and proliferation of smooth endoplasmic reticulum were seen at the high dose in 8/9 animals. A dose-dependent increase in liver weight was seen at 10 ppm (0.9 mg/kg/day) and above.

Dose and endpoint used for MRL derivation: 0.18 mg/kg/day; hyalinization of centrilobular cells.
Calculations: 0.18 mg/kg/day X 1/300UF = 0.0006 mg/kg/day.

[ ] NOAEL   [X] LOAEL

Uncertainty Factors used in MRL derivation:

   [X]   3 for use of a minimal LOAEL
   [X] 10 for extrapolation from animals to humans
   [X] 10 for human variability

Was a conversion used from ppm in food or water to a mg/body weight dose?
If so, explain: Yes. A food factor of 0.09 kg feed/kg body weight/day for male Wistar rats was used to convert from ppm in food to mg/kg as follows: 2 ppm X 0.09 (rat food factor) = 0.18 mg/kg/day; 10 ppm = 0.9 mg/kg/day; 50 ppm = 4.5 mg/kg/day; 250 ppm = 22.5 mg/kg/day.

If an inhalation study in animals, list the conversion factors used in determining human equivalent dose:

Other additional studies or pertinent information which lend support to this MRL: Significant increases in liver weight and the levels of hepatic cytochrome P-450, triglycerides, phospholipids, and cholesterol were seen in rats fed 50 mg/kg/day β-HCH for 2 weeks (Ikegami et al. 1991a, 1991b). Liver hypertrophy was seen in rats fed 25 mg/kg/day for 24 weeks (Ito et al. 1975), and in mice fed 32.5 mg/kg/day for 24 weeks (Ito et al. 1973). Fatty degeneration and necrosis were seen in liver of mice fed 0.5-40 mg/kg/day for up to

APPENDIX A

53 weeks (Fitzhugh et al. 1950). Schöter et al. (1987) also observed an increase in hepatic foci in rats exposed to 3 mg/kg/day in the diet for 20 weeks.

APPENDIX A

APPENDIX A

MINIMAL RISK LEVEL (MRL) WORKSHEET

Chemical Name: γ-HCH
CAS Number: 58-89-9
Date: January 15, 1999
Profile Status: Draft 3, Post-public
Route: [ ] Inhalation [X] Oral
Duration: [ ] Acute   [X] Intermediate   [ ] Chronic
Graph Key: 29
Species: Mouse

Minimal Risk Level: 0.00001   [X] mg/kg/day [ ] ppm

Reference: Meera et al. 1992

Experimental design (human study details or strain, number of animals per exposure/control groups, sex, dose administration details): Groups of 6 female Swiss mice were exposed in the diet to 0, 0.012, 0.12, or 1.2 mg/kg/day γ-HCH for up to 24 weeks.

Effects noted in study and corresponding doses: A dose-dependent biphasic response (stimulation followed by suppression) in cell-mediated and humoral components of the immunological profile was seen. *In vitro* splenic lymphocyte transformation in response to the mitogen Con A showed a faster onset of proliferative response (4 weeks) at doses 0.12 and 1.2 mg/kg, with an onset of 8 weeks at 0.12 mg/kg. Dose-dependent increase in size of thymus medulla, and decrease in cellular population of cortex was also seen.

Dose and endpoint used for MRL derivation: 0.012 mg/kg/day; reduced activity of lymphoid follicles with prominent megakaryocytes and delayed hypersensitivity to immune challenge.
Calculations: 0.012 mg/kg/day X 1/1000UF = 0.00001 mg/kg/day.

[ ] NOAEL   [X] LOAEL

Uncertainty Factors used in MRL derivation:

    [X] 10 for use of a LOAEL
    [X] 10 for extrapolation from animals to humans
    [X] 10 for human variability

Was a conversion used from ppm in food or water to a mg/body weight dose?
If so, explain: Yes. Conversions performed by authors of the study—details not provided.

If an inhalation study in animals, list the conversion factors used in determining human equivalent dose:

Other additional studies or pertinent information which lend support to this MRL: Immunosuppression in the form of reduced antibody response to *Salmonella* challenge was seen in rats exposed to 6.25 mg/kg/day gamma-HCH for up to 5 weeks (Dewan et al. 1980). Acute oral exposures of mice to 10 mg/kg/day gamma-HCH for 10 days resulted in residual bone marrow damage and suppressed granulocyte-macrophage progenitor cells, while at 3-day exposures to 40 mg/kg/day, thymus cortex atrophy was also seen (Hong and Boorman 1993).

APPENDIX B

USER'S GUIDE

Chapter 1

Public Health Statement

This chapter of the profile is a health effects summary written in non-technical language. Its intended audience is the general public especially people living in the vicinity of a hazardous waste site or chemical release. If the Public Health Statement were removed from the rest of the document, it would still communicate to the lay public essential information about the chemical.

The major headings in the Public Health Statement are useful to find specific topics of concern. The topics are written in a question and answer format. The answer to each question includes a sentence that will direct the reader to chapters in the profile that will provide more information on the given topic.

Chapter 2

Tables and Figures for Levels of Significant Exposure (LSE)

Tables (2-1, 2-2, and 2-3) and figures (2-1 and 2-2) are used to summarize health effects and illustrate graphically levels of exposure associated with those effects. These levels cover health effects observed at increasing dose concentrations and durations, differences in response by species, minimal risk levels (MRLs) to humans for noncancer end points, and EPA's estimated range associated with an upper- bound individual lifetime cancer risk of 1 in 10,000 to 1 in 10,000,000. Use the LSE tables and figures for a quick review of the health effects and to locate data for a specific exposure scenario. The LSE tables and figures should always be used in conjunction with the text. All entries in these tables and figures represent studies that provide reliable, quantitative estimates of No-Observed-Adverse- Effect Levels (NOAELs), Lowest-Observed-Adverse-Effect Levels (LOAELs), or Cancer Effect Levels (CELs).

The legends presented below demonstrate the application of these tables and figures. Representative examples of LSE Table 2-1 and Figure 2-1 are shown. The numbers in the left column of the legends correspond to the numbers in the example table and figure.

LEGEND
See LSE Table 2-1

(1)   Route of Exposure One of the first considerations when reviewing the toxicity of a substance using these tables and figures should be the relevant and appropriate route of exposure. When sufficient data exists, three LSE tables and two LSE figures are presented in the document. The three LSE tables present data on the three principal routes of exposure, i.e., inhalation, oral, and dermal (LSE Table 2-1, 2-2, and 2-3, respectively). LSE figures are limited to the inhalation (LSE Figure 2-1) and oral (LSE Figure 2-2) routes. Not all substances will have data on each route of exposure and will not therefore have all five of the tables and figures.

(2)   Exposure Period Three exposure periods - acute (less than 15 days), intermediate (15–364 days), and chronic (365 days or more) are presented within each relevant route of exposure. In this example, an

inhalation study of intermediate exposure duration is reported. For quick reference to health effects occurring from a known length of exposure, locate the applicable exposure period within the LSE table and figure.

(3)   Health Effect The major categories of health effects included in LSE tables and figures are death, systemic, immunological, neurological, developmental, reproductive, and cancer. NOAELs and LOAELs can be reported in the tables and figures for all effects but cancer. Systemic effects are further defined in the "System" column of the LSE table (see key number 18).

(4)   Key to Figure Each key number in the LSE table links study information to one or more data points using the same key number in the corresponding LSE figure. In this example, the study represented by key number 18 has been used to derive a NOAEL and a Less Serious LOAEL (also see the 2 "18r" data points in Figure 2-1).

(5)   Species The test species, whether animal or human, are identified in this column. Section 2.5, "Relevance to Public Health," covers the relevance of animal data to human toxicity and Section 2.3, "Toxicokinetics," contains any available information on comparative toxicokinetics. Although NOAELs and LOAELs are species specific, the levels are extrapolated to equivalent human doses to derive an MRL.

(6)   Exposure Frequency/Duration The duration of the study and the weekly and daily exposure regimen are provided in this column. This permits comparison of NOAELs and LOAELs from different studies. In this case (key number 18), rats were exposed to 1,1,2,2-tetrachloroethane via inhalation for 6 hours per day, 5 days per week, for 3 weeks. For a more complete review of the dosing regimen refer to the appropriate sections of the text or the original reference paper, i.e., Nitschke et al. 1981.

(7)   System This column further defines the systemic effects. These systems include: respiratory, cardiovascular, gastrointestinal, hematological, musculoskeletal, hepatic, renal, and dermal/ocular. "Other" refers to any systemic effect (e.g., a decrease in body weight) not covered in these systems. In the example of key number 18, 1 systemic effect (respiratory) was investigated.

(8)   NOAEL A No-Observed-Adverse-Effect Level (NOAEL) is the highest exposure level at which no harmful effects were seen in the organ system studied. Key number 18 reports a NOAEL of 3 ppm for the respiratory system which was used to derive an intermediate exposure, inhalation MRL of 0.005 ppm (see footnote "b").

(9)   LOAEL A Lowest-Observed-Adverse-Effect Level (LOAEL) is the lowest dose used in the study that caused a harmful health effect. LOAELs have been classified into "Less Serious" and "Serious" effects. These distinctions help readers identify the levels of exposure at which adverse health effects first appear and the gradation of effects with increasing dose. A brief description of the specific endpoint used to quantify the adverse effect accompanies the LOAEL. The respiratory effect reported in key number 18 (hyperplasia) is a Less serious LOAEL of 10 ppm. MRLs are not derived from Serious LOAELs.

(10)   Reference The complete reference citation is given in chapter 8 of the profile.

(11)   CEL A Cancer Effect Level (CEL) is the lowest exposure level associated with the onset of carcinogenesis in experimental or epidemiologic studies. CELs are always considered serious effects.

The LSE tables and figures do not contain NOAELs for cancer, but the text may report doses not causing measurable cancer increases.

(12) <u>Footnotes</u> Explanations of abbreviations or reference notes for data in the LSE tables are found in the footnotes. Footnote "b" indicates the NOAEL of 3 ppm in key number 18 was used to derive an MRL of 0.005 ppm.

LEGEND

See Figure 2-1

LSE figures graphically illustrate the data presented in the corresponding LSE tables. Figures help the reader quickly compare health effects according to exposure concentrations for particular exposure periods.

(13) <u>Exposure Period</u> The same exposure periods appear as in the LSE table. In this example, health effects observed within the intermediate and chronic exposure periods are illustrated.

(14) <u>Health Effect</u> These are the categories of health effects for which reliable quantitative data exists. The same health effects appear in the LSE table.

(15) <u>Levels of Exposure</u> concentrations or doses for each health effect in the LSE tables are graphically displayed in the LSE figures. Exposure concentration or dose is measured on the log scale "y" axis. Inhalation exposure is reported in mg/m^3 or ppm and oral exposure is reported in mg/kg/day.

(16) <u>NOAEL</u> In this example, 18r NOAEL is the critical endpoint for which an intermediate inhalation exposure MRL is based. As you can see from the LSE figure key, the open-circle symbol indicates to a NOAEL for the test species-rat. The key number 18 corresponds to the entry in the LSE table. The dashed descending arrow indicates the extrapolation from the exposure level of 3 ppm (see entry 18 in the Table) to the MRL of 0.005 ppm (see footnote "b" in the LSE table).

(17) <u>CEL</u> Key number 38r is 1 of 3 studies for which Cancer Effect Levels were derived. The diamond symbol refers to a Cancer Effect Level for the test species-mouse. The number 38 corresponds to the entry in the LSE table.

(18) <u>Estimated Upper-Bound Human Cancer Risk Levels</u> This is the range associated with the upper-bound for lifetime cancer risk of 1 in 10,000 to 1 in 10,000,000. These risk levels are derived from the EPA's Human Health Assessment Group's upper-bound estimates of the slope of the cancer dose response curve at low dose levels (q_1*).

(19) <u>Key to LSE Figure</u> The Key explains the abbreviations and symbols used in the figure.

The Relevance to Public Health section provides a health effects summary based on evaluations of existing toxicologic, epidemiologic, and toxicokinetic information. This summary is designed to present interpretive, weight-of-evidence discussions for human health end points by addressing the following questions.

1. What effects are known to occur in humans?

2. What effects observed in animals are likely to be of concern to humans?

3. What exposure conditions are likely to be of concern to humans, especially around hazardous waste sites?

The section covers end points in the same order they appear within the Discussion of Health Effects by Route of Exposure section, by route (inhalation, oral, dermal) and within route by effect. Human data are presented first, then animal data. Both are organized by duration (acute, intermediate, chronic). *In vitro* data and data from parenteral routes (intramuscular, intravenous, subcutaneous, etc.) are also considered in this section. If data are located in the scientific literature, a table of genotoxicity information is included.

The carcinogenic potential of the profiled substance is qualitatively evaluated, when appropriate, using existing toxicokinetic, genotoxic, and carcinogenic data. ATSDR does not currently assess cancer potency or perform cancer risk assessments. Minimal risk levels (MRLs) for noncancer end points (if derived) and the end points from which they were derived are indicated and discussed.

Limitations to existing scientific literature that prevent a satisfactory evaluation of the relevance to public health are identified in the Data Needs section.

SAMPLE

1 | 6

TABLE 2-1. Levels of Significant Exposure to [Chemical x] – Inhalation

Key to figure[a]	Species	Exposure frequency/ duration	System	NOAEL (ppm)	LOAEL (effect)		Reference
					Less serious (ppm)	Serious (ppm)	

2 | 6 INTERMEDIATE EXPOSURE

	5	6	7	8	9		10
3 6 Systemic	9	9	9	9	9		9
4 6 18	Rat	13 wk 5d/wk 6hr/d	Resp	3[b]	10 (hyperplasia)		Nitschke et al. 1981

- -

CHRONIC EXPOSURE

						11	
Cancer						9	
38	Rat	18 mo 5d/wk 7hr/d				20 (CEL, multiple organs)	Wong et al. 1982
39	Rat	89–104 wk 5d/wk 6hr/d				10 (CEL, lung tumors, nasal tumors)	NTP 1982
40	Mouse	79–103 wk 5d/wk 6hr/d				10 (CEL, lung tumors, hemangiosarcomas)	NTP 1982

[a] The number corresponds to entries in Figure 2-1.

12 | 6 [b] Used to derive an intermediate inhalation Minimal Risk Level (MRL) of 5 x 10^{-3} ppm; dose adjusted for intermittent exposure and divided by an uncertainty factor of 100 (10 for extrapolation from animal to humans, 10 for human variability).

CEL = cancer effect level; d = days(s); hr = hour(s); LOAEL = lowest-observed-adverse-effect level; mo = month(s); NOAEL = no-observed-adverse-effect level; Resp = respiratory; wk = week(s)
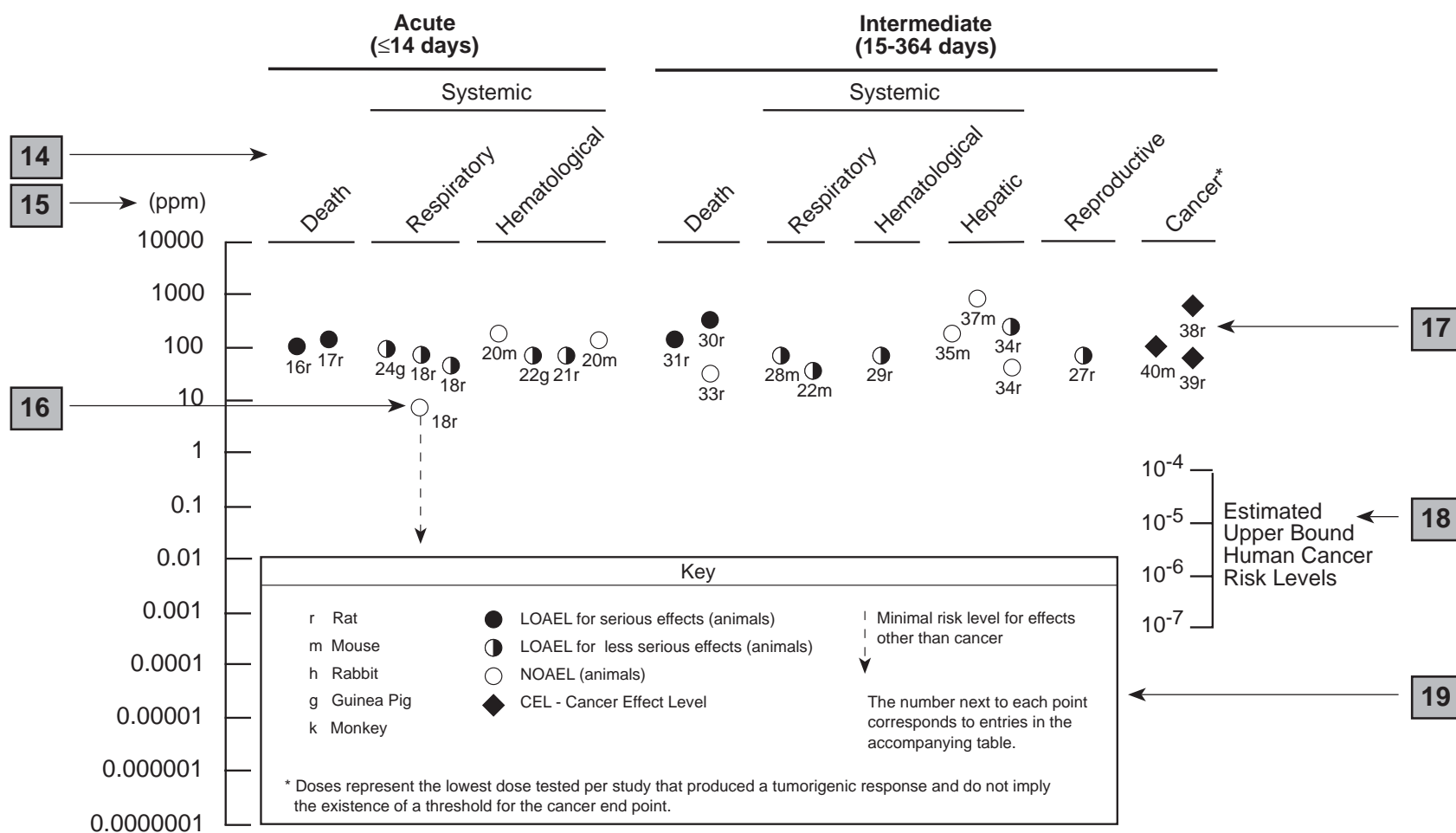
Figure 2-1. Levels of Significant Exposure to [Chemical X] – Inhalation

Chapter 2 (Section 2.5)

Relevance to Public Health

Interpretation of Minimal Risk Levels

Where sufficient toxicologic information is available, we have derived minimal risk levels (MRLs) for inhalation and oral routes of entry at each duration of exposure (acute, intermediate, and chronic). These MRLs are not meant to support regulatory action; but to acquaint health professionals with exposure levels at which adverse health effects are not expected to occur in humans. They should help physicians and public health officials determine the safety of a community living near a chemical emission, given the concentration of a contaminant in air or the estimated daily dose in water. MRLs are based largely on toxicological studies in animals and on reports of human occupational exposure.

MRL users should be familiar with the toxicologic information on which the number is based. Chapter 2.5, "Relevance to Public Health," contains basic information known about the substance. Other sections such as 2.8, "Interactions with Other Substances," and 2.9, "Populations that are Unusually Susceptible" provide important supplemental information.

MRL users should also understand the MRL derivation methodology. MRLs are derived using a modified version of the risk assessment methodology the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) provides (Barnes and Dourson 1988) to determine reference doses for lifetime exposure (RfDs).

To derive an MRL, ATSDR generally selects the most sensitive endpoint which, in its best judgement, represents the most sensitive human health effect for a given exposure route and duration. ATSDR cannot make this judgement or derive an MRL unless information (quantitative or qualitative) is available for all potential systemic, neurological, and developmental effects. If this information and reliable quantitative data on the chosen endpoint are available, ATSDR derives an MRL using the most sensitive species (when information from multiple species is available) with the highest NOAEL that does not exceed any adverse effect levels. When a NOAEL is not available, a lowest-observed-adverse-effect level (LOAEL) can be used to derive an MRL, and an uncertainty factor (UF) of 10 must be employed. Additional uncertainty factors of 10 must be used both for human variability to protect sensitive subpopulations (people who are most susceptible to the health effects caused by the substance) and for interspecies variability (extrapolation from animals to humans). In deriving an MRL, these individual uncertainty factors are multiplied together. The product is then divided into the inhalation concentration or oral dosage selected from the study. Uncertainty factors used in developing a substance-specific MRL are provided in the footnotes of the LSE Tables.

APPENDIX C

ACRONYMS, ABBREVIATIONS, AND SYMBOLS

ACGIH	American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists
ADME	Absorption, Distribution, Metabolism, and Excretion
atm	atmosphere
ATSDR	Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry
BCF	bioconcentration factor
BSC	Board of Scientific Counselors
C	Centigrade
CDC	Centers for Disease Control
CEL	Cancer Effect Level
CERCLA	Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
CLP	Contract Laboratory Program
cm	centimeter
CNS	central nervous system
d	day
DHEW	Department of Health, Education, and Welfare
DHHS	Department of Health and Human Services
DOL	Department of Labor
ECG	electrocardiogram
EEG	electroencephalogram
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
EKG	see ECG
F	Fahrenheit
F_1	first filial generation
FAO	Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency
FIFRA	Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act
fpm	feet per minute
ft	foot
FR	*Federal Register*
g	gram
GC	gas chromatography
gen	generation
HPLC	high-performance liquid chromatography
hr	hour
IDLH	Immediately Dangerous to Life and Health
IARC	International Agency for Research on Cancer
ILO	International Labor Organization
in	inch
Kd	adsorption ratio
kg	kilogram
kkg	metric ton
K_{oc}	organic carbon partition coefficient
K_{ow}	octanol-water partition coefficient

APPENDIX C

L	liter
LC	liquid chromatography
LC_{Lo}	lethal concentration, low
LC_{50}	lethal concentration, 50% kill
LD_{Lo}	lethal dose, low
LD_{50}	lethal dose, 50% kill
LOAEL	lowest-observed-adverse-effect level
LSE	Levels of Significant Exposure
m	meter
mg	milligram
min	minute
mL	milliliter
mm	millimeter
mmHg	millimeters of mercury
mmol	millimole
mo	month
mppcf	millions of particles per cubic foot
MRL	Minimal Risk Level
MS	mass spectrometry
NIEHS	National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences
NIOSH	National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health
NIOSHTIC	NIOSH's Computerized Information Retrieval System
ng	nanogram
nm	nanometer
NHANES	National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey
nmol	nanomole
NOAEL	no-observed-adverse-effect level
NOES	National Occupational Exposure Survey
NOHS	National Occupational Hazard Survey
NPL	National Priorities List
NRC	National Research Council
NTIS	National Technical Information Service
NTP	National Toxicology Program
OSHA	Occupational Safety and Health Administration
PEL	permissible exposure limit
pg	picogram
pmol	picomole
PHS	Public Health Service
PMR	proportionate mortality ratio
ppb	parts per billion
ppm	parts per million
ppt	parts per trillion
REL	recommended exposure limit
RfD	Reference Dose
RTECS	Registry of Toxic Effects of Chemical Substances
sec	second
SCE	sister chromatid exchange
SIC	Standard Industrial Classification
SMR	standard mortality ratio

STEL	short term exposure limit
STORET	STORAGE and RETRIEVAL
TLV	threshold limit value
TSCA	Toxic Substances Control Act
TRI	Toxics Release Inventory
TWA	time-weighted average
U.S.	United States
UF	uncertainty factor
yr	year
WHO	World Health Organization
wk	week
>	greater than
$\geq$	greater than or equal to
=	equal to
<	less than
$\leq$	less than or equal to
%	percent
α	alpha
β	beta
δ	delta
γ	gamma
μm	micrometer
μg	microgram